

## Connecting Kids to Coverage National Campaign

## "VACCINATIONS" TEMPLATE NEWSLETTER ARTICLE FOR PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS

Community newspapers, school newsletters, church bulletins, local community organizations, websites, and blogs are frequently in need of content. These articles can be used as-is or an organization can insert their local information to customize and use within their own communications channels.

\*Insert your state's income limit for a family of four at 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). To find the annual FPL figure, visit ASPE Poverty Guidelines. To find the specific FPL guidelines for your state, click here or contact your state's Medicaid and CHIP program for information. Note: The income level figure will change from year to year based on the annual release of FPL guidelines.

Approximately 265 words

## Schedule Kids to Get Vaccines with Medicaid and CHIP Today and Protect Their Tomorrow

One of the best ways to protect kids and teens from preventable diseases and severe illness is through vaccines. They work by helping to provide children with immunity before being exposed to potentially life-threatening diseases and can also prevent the spread of illness to other vulnerable community members. Keeping up with immunizations can prevent 14 infectious diseases like measles, influenza (flu), hepatitis A, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough), and varicella (chicken pox).

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) provides the latest guidelines on recommended vaccine schedules for children from birth to 6 years of age and for those from ages 7 to 18. Routine vaccines and boosters are covered by Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). These programs offer free and low-cost health coverage options for eligible kids and teens up to age 19 and include well-child visits, emergency care, as well as vision, dental, and mental and behavioral health services.

Enrollment for Medicaid and CHIP is open year-round and must be renewed annually to maintain continuous coverage. Families who are already enrolled should make sure their contact information is up to date to ensure they do not miss important notices and can avoid gaps in coverage. For more information on coverage, families can call 1-877-KIDS-NOW (1-877-543-7669) or visit InsureKidsNow.gov and use the "Find Coverage for Your Family" map to locate state-specific information. Parents can also visit [STATE INSURANCE PAGE LINK] or call [STATE INSURANCE NUMBER OR YOUR ORGANIZATION NUMBER] for more information about Medicaid and CHIP in [STATE].

Approximately 130 words

## Schedule Kids to Get Vaccines with Medicaid and CHIP Today and Protect Their Tomorrow

Routine vaccinations are the best way to protect kids and teens from preventable diseases and severe illness. Sticking to the CDC recommended vaccine schedule can prevent 14 infectious diseases like whooping cough, tetanus, measles, influenza, and hepatitis A.

When scheduling medical appointments for their children, parents and caregivers should also make sure routine vaccinations are up-to-date. Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) cover routine and emergency care, dental and vision, and mental and behavioral services among others, for children up to age 19. For more information on finding coverage, families can call 1-877-KIDS- NOW (1-877-543-7669) or visit InsureKidsNow.gov and use the "Find Coverage for Your Family" map to locate state-specific information.